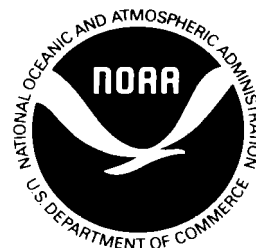


NE Multispecies Closed Area Regulations



GULF OF MAINE AND GEORGES BANK SEASONAL CLOSURE AREAS:

Exemptions to the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank seasonal NE multispecies closures are: Vessels that do not have a Federal multispecies permit and are fishing exclusively in state waters; charter, party or recreational vessels; and vessels fishing with spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dip nets, stop nets, pound nets, pots and traps, purse seines, mid-water trawls, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, pelagic hook and line, pelagic longlines, single pelagic gillnets, shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates), and sea scallop dredge gear (see conditions under Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area). Charter and party vessels fishing in the Gulf of Maine seasonal closure areas must have a letter of authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A letter of authorization is valid from the date of enrollment through the duration or the closure of three months duration, whichever is greater, and is available by calling the permit office at 978-281-9278.

GULF OF MAINE SEASONAL ROLLING CLOSURE AREAS

< Rolling Closure Area I - Closed March 1 through March 31:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
GM3	42°00'	(1)
GM5	42°00'	68°30'
GM6	42°30'	68°30'
GM23	42°30'	70°00'

1 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

< Rolling Closure Area II - Closed April 1 through April 30:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
GM1	42°00'	(1)
GM2	42°00'	(2)
GM3	42°00'	(3)
GM5	42°00'	68°30'
GM13	43°00'	68°30'
GM10	43°00'	(4)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

4 New Hampshire shoreline.

< Rolling Closure Area III - Closed May 1 through May 31:

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
GM1	42°00'	(1)
GM2	42°00'	(2)

GM3	42°00'	(3)
GM4	42°00'	70°00'
GM23	42°30'	70°00'
GM6	42°30'	68°30'
GM14	43°30'	68°30'
GM10	43°30'	(4)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

4 Maine shoreline.

< **Rolling Closure Area IV - Closed June 1 through June 30:**

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
GM9	42°30'	(1)
GM23	42°30'	70°00'
GM17	43°30'	70°00'
GM19	43°30'	67°32' or (2)
GM20	44°00'	67°21' or (2)
GM21	44°00'	69°00'
GM22	(3)	69°00'

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 U.S. - Canada maritime boundary.

3 Maine shoreline.

< *** Rolling Closure Area V - Closed October 1 through November 30:**

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
GM1	42°00'	(1)
GM2	42°00'	(2)
GM3	42°00'	(3)
GM4	42°00'	70°00'
GM8	42°30'	70°00'
GM9	42°30'	(1)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

*Raised footrope trawl whiting fishery exempt

GEORGES BANK SEASONAL CLOSURE AREA

For the purposes of the Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area only, vessels fishing with scallop dredge gear when fishing under a scallop DAS or when fishing in the Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Area are exempt, provided that the vessel uses an 8-inch twine top and complies with other applicable multispecies possession limits. The area is as follows:

< **Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area - Closed May 1 through May 31:**

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
GB1	42°00'	(1)
GB2	42°00'	68°30'
GB3	42°20'	68°30'
GB4	42°20'	67°20'
GB5	41°30'	67°20'
CL1	41°30'	69°23'
CL2	40°45'	68°45'
CL3	40°45'	68°30'

GB6	40/30'	68/30'
GB7	40/30'	69/00'
G10	40/50'	69/00'
GB8	40°50'	69°30'
GB9	41/00'	69/30'
GB10	41/00'	70/00'
G12	(1)	70/00'

1 Northward to its intersection with the shoreline of Mainland Massachusetts.

YEAR ROUND CLOSED AREAS- Gulf of Maine

Exceptions to the Gulf of Maine year round closure areas are: Charter, party or recreational vessels; and vessels fishing with spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dip nets, stop nets, pound nets, pots and traps, purse seines, mid-water trawls, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, pelagic hook and line, pelagic longlines, single pelagic gillnets, and shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates). Charter and party vessels must have a letter of authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A letter of authorization is valid from the date of enrollment until the end of the fishing year and is available by calling the permit office at 978-281-9278.

< Western GOM Area Closure

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
WGM1	42°15'	70°15'
WGM2	42°15'	69°55'
WGM3	43°15'	69°55'
WGM4	43°15'	70°15'
WGM1	42°15'	70°15'

< Cashes Ledge Closure Area

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
CL1	43°07'	69°02'
CL2	42°49.5'	68°46'
CL3	42°46.5'	68°50.5'
CL4	42°43.5'	68°58.5'
CL5	42°42.5'	69°17.5'
CL6	42°49.5'	69°26'
CL1	43°07'	69°02'

YEAR ROUND CLOSED AREAS- Georges Bank and Southern New England

- < **Closed Area I** - Exceptions to the closure are vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook and line gear, pelagic longline gear, harpoon gear, and mid-water trawl gear.

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
CI1	41°30'	69°23'
CI2	40°45'	68°45'
CI3	40°45'	68°30'
CI4	41°30'	68°30'

CII

41°30'

69°23'

- < **Closed Area II** - Exceptions to the closure are vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook and line gear, pelagic longline gear, harpoon gear, and mid-water trawl gear.

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
CII1	41°00'	67°20'
CII2	41°00'	66°35.8'
G5	41°18.6'	66°24.8' (the U.S.- Canada Maritime Boundary)
CII3	42°22'	67°20' (the U.S.- Canada Maritime Boundary)
CII1	41°00'	67°20'

- < **Nantucket Lightship Closed Area** - Exceptions to the closure are vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook and line gear, pelagic longline gear, harpoon gear, mid-water trawl gear, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, and charter, party or recreational vessels. Charter and party vessels must have a letter of authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A letter of authorization may be obtained by calling the permit office at 978-281-9278.

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
G10	40°50'	69°00'
CN1	40°20'	69°00'
CN2	40°20'	70°20'
CN3	40°50'	70°20'
G10	40°50'	69°00'

TRANSITING REGULATIONS

- < **Multispecies Seasonal GOM Rolling Closures, Georges Bank Seasonal Closures, Western GOM Closed Area, Cashes Ledge Closure, Nantucket Lightship Closed Area and Closed Area I:** Vessels may transit these areas during the closure periods, provided that the gear is stowed in accordance with the regulations summarized below.
- < **Closed Area II:** Vessels may transit Closed Area II for safety reasons, provided the operator has determined that there is a compelling safety reason and that fishing gear is stowed in accordance with the regulations summarized below.

GEAR STOWAGE REQUIREMENTS

Trawl Gear:

- C ***A net stowed below deck provided:*** It is located below the main working deck from which the net is deployed and retrieved; the towing wires, including the leg wires, are detached from the net; and it is fan-folded (flaked) and bound around its circumference.
- or**
- C ***A net stowed and lashed down on deck, provided:*** It is fan-folded (flaked) and bound around its circumference; it is securely fastened to the deck or rail of the vessel; and the towing wires, including the leg wires, are detached from the net.
- or**
- C ***On-reel stowage for vessels transiting the GOM Rolling Closure Areas and the Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area*** - A net that is on a reel and is covered and secured, provided: the entire surface of the net is covered with canvas or other similar material that is securely bound; the towing wires are detached from the doors; and no containment rope, codend tripping device, or other mechanism to close off the codend is

attached to the codend.

or

- ***On-reel stowage for vessels transiting the Western GOM Closure Area, Cashes Ledge Closure Area, Closed Area I, Closed Area II, and the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area*** - A net that is on a reel and is covered and secured, provided: the entire surface of the net is covered with canvas or other similar material that is securely bound; the towing wires are detached from the net; and the codend is removed and stored below deck.

or

- C ***Nets that are secured in a manner authorized in writing by the Regional Administrator.***

Scallop Dredges:

- C The towing wire is detached from the scallop dredge, the towing wire is reeled up onto the winch, and the dredge is secured and covered so that it is rendered unusable for fishing.

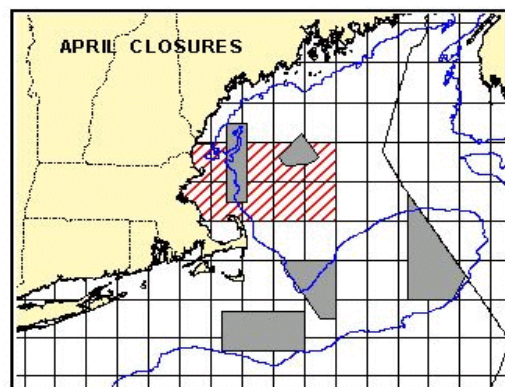
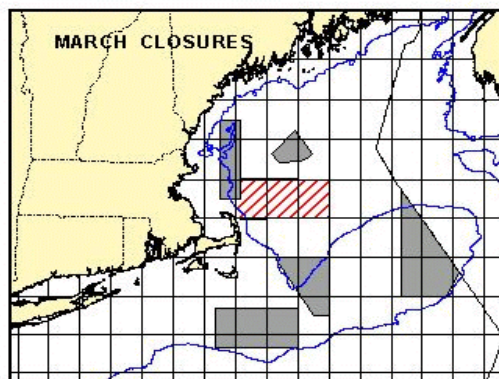
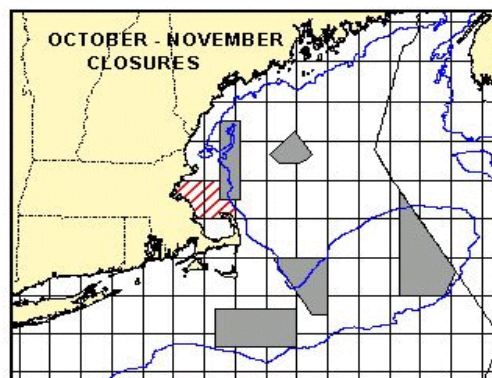
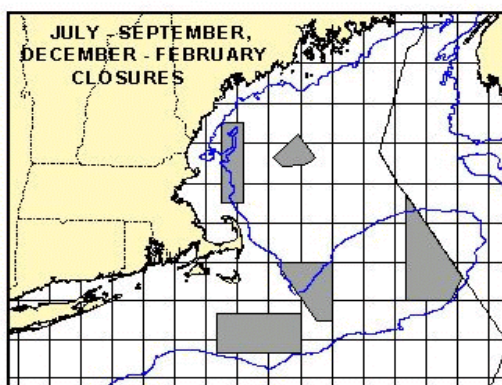
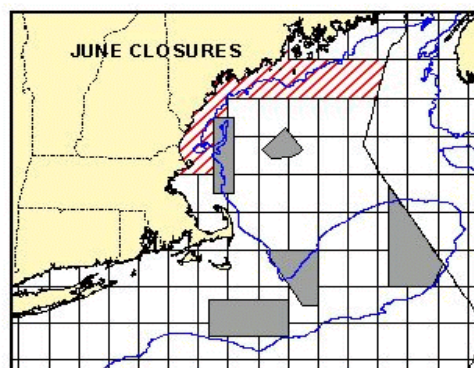
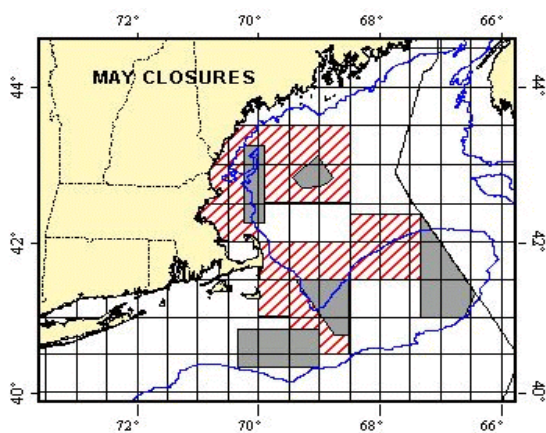
Hook Gear: (other than pelagic)

- C All anchors and buoys are secured and all hook gear, including jigging machines, is covered.

Sink Gillnet Gear:

- C All nets are covered with canvas or other similar material and lashed or otherwise securely fastened to the deck or rail, and all buoys larger than 6 inches (15.24 cm) in diameter, high flyers, and anchors are disconnected.

Gulf of Maine Rolling Closure Areas



This is a simplified summary of the measures in effect under the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. This summary has no legal standing. You should request a copy of the official rules as published in the Federal Register.